

RECKLESS RALPH'S

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Published by Ralph F. Cummings, Box 75, Fisherville, Mass., U. S. A.

Price \$1.00 per year or ten cents a copy.

Ad. rates—2c per word, 50c per inch, Quarter page \$1.25, Half page \$2.00, Full page \$3.50. Four times for price of three.

Vol. 14

July 1946

No. 166

FIRST HALF YEAR OF WORK AND WIN

by Harold C. Holmes

You better get out your copy of Happy Hours Magazine #67, March-April 1936 and read the first article by Ralph P. Smith, titled Work and Win—The Fred Fearnot Tales. In that article Ralph gives you the general setup of the whole series. I agree with what he has written and shall simply add certain points which he did not include in his article.

Who was the author? Bill Burns of Rockland, Me., once wrote me that all the early issues were by H. K. Shackelford who wrote so many temperance stories under the name of Jno. B. Dowd.

Popularity? Whatever you think of Work and Win it was an important weekly. It ran 1374 issues or 26½ years. Among my dozen novel reading chums in my kid days if I remember rightly each and every one of them read this weekly regularly each week, yet none ever seemed to regard them highly except myself. For some unaccountable reason it was my favorite weekly for most five years by which time Tip Top had surpassed it as my favorite.

What caused them to be read so widely may be due to several reasons. One was the subjects chosen were so diversified and covered all the things a boy would like to do and be, school-circus-stage-railroad-foreign travel-ranch life-hunting trips-baseball-ice sports-detective work-fireman-bicycling-prize fighting-college-boat racing,

etc. Also humor. The stories were chock-full of humor, if you can call it that. To the adult mind it is atrocious humor. The crudest kind of practical jokes. Putting artificial snakes in people's pockets was about the level of Work and Win humor. Fred would be in a railway car, a farmer would come in with a market basket and Fred by his ventriloquism would start a hen cackling in the basket, or a negro would come in and be scared most to death when a dog fight would start under his feet or a fat lady would seat herself and a baby would start screaming as tho she had sat down on it. The conductor would always be called in and he would always bawl out the unoffending victim of the joke while Fred was never suspected. Crude stuff, yet after all Shackelford may have known what he was doing, he was writing for boys and boys could not have understood adult humor even if he had written it. Anyway Shackelford must have known what he was doing as the boys I knew and including myself used to think those incidents very funny and used to tell each other how funny Fred was in the latest issue.

Another reason why I think the boys all read them was that the device of HOME was used to a greater extent than almost any other series. These characters must really live, as they had fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters which constantly appeared for a paragraph or two or were at least referred to by the other characters again and again. In this first 26 issues Judge Fearnot, Fred's father,

either appeared or was mentioned in 19 issues, Fred's mother was in 8 issues, Terry Olcott's father in 6 issues and his mother in 5 issues, Terry visited Fred's home in New York many times and Fred visited Fredonia, Terry's home 12 times in this first Half Year.

It is worthy of note that no dialect characters were used in Work and Win which figured so prominently in so many other series. The stories were most illogical but who cares when you are twelve years old and reading about your favorite hero. If you asked Lionel Barrymore how long it took him to become a good actor and he would probably tell you 20 years, Fred made it in 20 hours. Fred drove a locomotive on a fast night run with no previous experience but what of it. I could have done the same when I was a kid only the railroads had a stupid rule against hiring 12 year old engineers.

The picture covers were in the best early Tousey style that made you feel you just had to buy each issue as it came out. The pictures undoubtedly had much to do with the sale of Tousey weeklies. To tell you what the pictures were like, turn with me to Dime Novel Round-Up #25 for Dec. 1933 to an article by Charles Bragin, titled Pluck and Luck.

Charlie had just described the picture on P&L #31 and then went on, thus: QUOTE. True, the steed looked like something taken bodily from a merry-go-round. The characters, all, with their staring eyes, look like wax figures, or stuffed effigies. The usual crudity of the early Tousey color cover illustration; but with a unique charm and interest entirely lacking in the later illustrations. UNQUOTE. That sure holds true, I thrilled at those pictures when I was a kid and never fail to enjoy looking at them now.

My purpose in choosing the first 26 issues of Work and Win for my write-up is that I believe such a write-up might satisfy the curiosity of quite a number of you. I'll bet many of you have early issues of Work and Win that you haven't read in 40 years. Your novel-reading time being spent on series you like much better. You often look at the picture on one of them and say, "I must read that one

some time" but never do. So now I'll try to give you at least an outline of each story in the First Half Year of Work and Win.

#1 Fred Fearnot; or, Schooldays at Avon

Dated Dec. 9, 1898.

This issue came out same week as Pluck and Luck #27, Diamond Dick Jr. #113, Tip Top #139 and 7 weeks before Secret Service #1 came out.

If you would like to see the picture on this issue you will find it in Round Up #53 for August 1936, also look in your "novel" scrap book. I'll bet you pasted into that the top of one of Ralph Cummings' letters the same as I did. Ralph was using in early 1936 a letter head showing pictures of Work and Win #1 and James Boys Weekly #58.

This story is chiefly important for the people you meet in it who are destined to be often in Fred's life for years. You meet Prof. Lambert, head of the school and his wife and daughter Eunice, the latter grew much fonder of Fred than he did of her. You meet teachers, Tracy and Brown. Terry comes on the scene and he is destined to become Fred's lifelong chum. You meet Dick Duncan, Tom Tipps and Joe Jenks also in the stories for years. It was not a typical school story as it had no athletics in it, nearest approach to that being to row up the river to Farmer Brown's and feast on watermelon. Story was full of pranks Fred played on the porters and on boys who tried to haze him. He saves four girls who were in a runaway team, all members of the Girl's High School of Avon. They present him with a gold watch for his rescue and in his speech accepting it he speaks of his sister and later shows Eunice Lambert a picture of her. Also this school story is unique, in that no rival in the Academy becomes his enemy for life. Most other series started off that way.

#2 FF, Detective; or, Balking a Desperate Game

The bank at Avon was robbed one night and Fred had caught sight of suspicious looking men, thus he got interested in the case and followed the sheriff to town of Dupont. Finding men have left there the sheriff turned back, Fred kept on alone and trailed the gang to Elmira, N. Y. There the

crooks kidnap the child of one Judge Holman. Fred writes to Terry Olcott to come and help him. Terry goes to Elmira and in the proper adventures rescue the child and capture the crooks. Fred is properly lauded by the townspeople of Elmira and Fred's father came up from New York to see what it was all about.

#3 FF's Daring Rescue; or, A Hero in Spite of Himself

This story is so different than #2. No real adventure at all, just kind of a nice little tale about things all we kids were so familiar with. Riding your bikes out to a pond and going swimming, or fishing, the story was just filled with items so commonplace and yet so enjoyable. Fred paid his first visit to Terry Olcott in Fredonia and met Terry's sister Evelyn for the first time. Yes, you guessed it; they were destined to be sweethearts. Meets Mary Hamilton who was Terry's "girl friend." Fred rescues Mary from a bull that got into a field where they were having a picnic, this was the scene for the picture cover which was a dandy. (An "aside" for J. P. Guinon, Little Rock. Dear Guinon: If you have never seen the picture on this issue, a few alterations to picture on Tip Top #101 will do the trick. First take that silly parasol out of Frank's hand and give it to Inza to hold. 2nd Frank shows the manners of a Digger Indian, he is standing right square in the middle of the picnic lunch, so remove all signs of the lunch. 3rd The bull is holding one hoof up to have a rope thrown over it. When Frank started for the picnic if he was so forgetful that he did not bring his lariat, get a rope somewhere even if Inza has to unravel her red flannels. 4th Throw this rope over the bull's hoof and splash well with Tousey colors and there you have it. Yours, Holmes.)

Sadie Stevens was the belle of Fredonia, very beautiful, a born flirt, she is saved from a fire by Fred whereupon she goes after Fred in a big way. But Fred does not fall for her at all.

The last episode in this story was a long one and was a pip. Fred and Terry ride their wheels to the lake for a days fishing. Row the boat always up the lake. Storm is approaching so they row to the head of lake

and take refuge in a tumble-down building perched at edge of an old rickety dam. Terrible rain storm breaks. Their boat breaks loose and has drifted well away before they see it. As no one is within miles they strip to the nude and swim after their boat.

Catch it and climb in. Just then the rickety dam caves in and the old building breaks up and is swept away and with it goes every stitch of their clothes. There they are left in an open boat in a pouring rain, several miles from home and stripped naked. They had a tough time wriggling out of that mess and what was worse the story got out and soon everyone in Fredonia knew about it and the boys never could live that one down. Fred got a letter from his father asking him to come home to New York.

#4 FF's Narrow Escape; or, The Plot that Failed

You can see the picture on this issue by looking at bottom of the inside of the back cover of the Dime Novel Catalogue put out by Bragin. Fred and Terry go to NY to Fred's home. Story says Mrs. Fearnot greeted Fred with great affection as he was her only child. In #1 he had a sister, in #4 he is an only child. In applause col a little later several of those who wrote letters picked up this point. Judge Fearnot sends Fred and Terry to town of Medway where the Judge is receiver for the Medway Mfg Co. Judge Fearnot thinks his representative there is crooked and so it proved to be. Fred and Terry went there and found wholesale stealing from the mill. Terry is captured by the gang but in some exciting events he escapes and finally the boys bring the thieves to book and then they return to NY to prepare for their next term at Avon.

#5 FF at Avon Again; or, His Second Term at School

As long a story as usual but after you are thru reading it, you wonder how there could have been such a flow of words over so few incidents. Boys and girls go on a picnic to cut down a bee tree, farmer tries to prevent them crossing his land and Fred beats him up in a fist fight, Fred breaks a balky horse, Academy Boat Club beat the Avon "townies" in a race, Fred saves a little girl from drowning and the 17 members of the senior class have a

watermelon feast. That's all there was to it.

#6 FF's Pluck; or, His Race to Save a Life

Another story that I liked, the same kind as #3. It had a fine picture cover also, Winter scene, horse running on the ice toward open water left by ice cutters. Fred by a dash on his skates is just reaching for the horses bit. In distance skaters and the snow-clad hills.

Fred went up to Fredonia to enjoy the winter sports and took with him a fine pair of skates as a present for Evelyn. On a pond near Fredonia he beats two of the town's best skaters in races. A great many of the Fredonia young people, Fred, Terry, Evelyn and Mary Hamilton included go to a large lake about a half hours train ride away where there is an ice tournament. All kinds of races and sports indulged in and Fred makes the rescue shown in the picture on the cover. Fred helps out the family of a poor widow by giving her the money he won in the races. Go back to Fredonia and Fred gives a show in the Olcott barn to all the young kids in the neighborhood and mystifies them with ventriloquism and sleight-of-hand. Fred's father sends for him to come home.

#7 FF as an Actor; or, Fame Before the Footlights

Terry had accompanied Fred down to NY and they started for the West to carry out a mission Judge Fearnot had given them. On train they find The Hammond Theatrical Co. and the boys make their acquaintance and join them in singing. This meeting was important as the members of this Co. were to have much to do with Fred in years to come. He meets two blonds Nellie Traynor and Elsie Warner and a brunette Gussie Silver. Fred and Terry go to Iowa and transact the business Judge Fearnot had laid out for them, then they go to Homerville, Iowa, where this theatrical Co. is playing. Met Mr. Hammond the manager and two of the actors, Frank Gale and Sam Innes. Mr. Hammond hires Fred and Terry at \$25 a week each to do a Specialty, singing act in which Fred uses ventriloquism in bird calls, etc. Fred has a fight with Frank Gale and whips him so badly he can't go on the stage that night so

Fred to keep the show going takes the leading role in play, it goes so well that when play is changed to "The Two Lovers" Fred is given the leading role.

We must admit he was a success as Mr. Baldwin the manager of a theatre in St. Louis came up to watch the show and when the performance was over came back stage and offered Fred a contract for a year at \$300 a week. Fred refused as his father would not want him to become a professional actor. They play all the big cities in the middle west then are in a train wreck, Mr. Hammond and Sam Innes are seriously hurt and the show breaks up.

#8 FF at Sea; or, A Chase Across the Ocean

The show they had been with broke up in Louisville, Ky. Fred has telegram from his father saying a client of his had been swindled out of \$150,000 by two men. It is thought one of them will try to leave the country from San Francisco, Fred and Terry go there, see a man they suspect, ship as a seaman on sailing vessel for Melbourne. Fred and Terry take passage as passengers. Have many adventures on the voyage but finally arrive in Australia, the two crooks meet, Fred causes their arrest and recovers the stolen money. Fred and Terry then embark on a boat for Liverpool and home.

#9 FF Out West; or, Adventures with the Cowboys

Terry comes down to New York to visit Fred. Nick Taylor a rancher from Arizona was in New York on business, he meets Fred and Terry and invites them to pay a visit to his ranch. This the boys decide to do and not long after arrive at the RR station at the Arizona-Colorado border. Are met by one of the Taylor cowboys, Ben Miller. Fred and Terry have to conquer bucking bronchos before they start their ride to the ranch. This they do and later in day stop for a rest in a little settlement where there is an Inn called Ranchman's Rest. Finally arrive at the ranch, Nick Taylor, is a bachelor and as housekeepers he has a family named Gardner who have two daughters Mary and Fannie. Some cattle are stolen, they chase the thieves, catch them and lynch them. Apache Indians stage an uprising and

a good time is had by all; shooting Indians.

Neighboring ranchers come to visit, family named Griswold, they have two daughters named Mattie and Nellie. The older of the two promptly falls in love with Fred but it all comes to naught. All hands go to a dance at Ranchman's Rest, drunken cowboys start trouble and Fred fights two successful gun battles. Later the brother of one of Fred's victims comes to the ranch gunning for Fred but is shot dead by one of Taylor's cowboys named Ben Miller.

Summer over the boys decide to leave the ranch.

#10 FF's Great Peril; or,

Running Down the Counterfeiters

Still at Taylor Ranch. Taylor sells 2,000 head of cattle to J. D. Mann of Chicago. Cattle are driven to Kansas City and the money is paid for them. They soon find all but \$700 is counterfeit. Fred and Terry start to run down the crooks but Terry is summoned home to Fredonia by a letter from his father. Fred puts on disguise and follows trail to St. Louis, Chicago, Omaha and back to Kansas City. Here he catches up with Mr. J. D. Mann and arrests him, then captures Mann's partner, then beards the gang in their counterfeiting den and captures four. Then the whole gang being smashed up Fred calls it a day.

#11 FF's Double Victory; or,

Killing Two Birds With One Stone

Fred goes up to Fredonia and talks over with Terry making a hunting trip to the Yellowstone Park region. They go there and do a lot of sight-seeing. Fred kills a bear and when set upon by a bully bluffs his way out of a duel. With Bill Hardy for a guide they go south of the Park into the mountains. Hardy takes them to a cabin built under a cliff across a chasm which can only be reached by crossing over a log.

Ben Thurman and his wife and daughter Sadie live in this cabin. Sadie is an heiress when she becomes 21 to a large fortune and she has been attacked several times by men acting for a relative who is trying to get this fortune for himself. Sadie will be 21 the next year. Two men appear at the log and tell our friends that one of their companions is in distress in the woods. Terry goes with the two

men to give his aid. Next morning the two men reappear without Terry and start to make their way across the log. Fred knows they are coming across for no good purpose so he advances on the log from the cliff side of the chasm and finally throws both the men off to their death in the canyon below. Terry is found unhurt after spending a night of terror lost in the wilds. Fall comes and Fred and Terry leave and with them go the Thurmans who have decided to spend the winter in civilization. Thurman gives his cabin to Bill Hardy.

#12 FF's Game Finish; or,

His Bicycle Race to Save a Million

Fred Fearnot rides his wheel from New York City to Fredonia to visit Terry Olcott. The two boys with Evelyn and Mary Hamilton make many bicycle trips around Fredonia. Fred wins some races from the local boys. He has to kill a dog that attacked him and got into an altercation with the dog's owner which ended in Fred pounding the man into submission with the body of his own dead dog which was a refreshing novelty in method for Work and Win readers.

Fred wins over \$1,000 in bets by his trick of jumping his bicycle over a log and over a ditch. Fred and Terry start west on a bicycle tour and two gamblers from Fredonia start with them determined to win money by means of betting on Fred's bicycle tricks. Fred and Terry after several attempts shake off these two gamblers.

At a small town Fred gets a letter from his father enclosing certain legal papers. A huge oil estate hinges on obtaining a certain signature to these papers not later than noon the next day in the town of Orlando, 110 miles away. There is no railway connection and Fred and Terry start at 2:00 p.m. to make it on their wheels. One million is at stake. Do they make it? They do and get Judge Hallday's signature in time.

#13 FF's Great Run; or,

An Engineer For a Week

Fred and Terry stay in little town of Orlando for a couple of days resting up after their great race against time. When they do leave a crowd of young people ride out with them, nine couples in all. During the ride Fred prods at a bashful young man till he makes a declaration of love for

one of the girls, she accepts him and when they reach the next town the two young people were married, with the rest of the bicycle party as witnesses.

Fred and Terry go on westward alone to town of Roxbury where Fred looks up a friend Tom Mayfield who is a locomotive engineer. Fred rides in cab of the engine one trip and watches with great care just how Mayfield runs the engine. Fred asked to try to run it and Mayfield let him take over the levers and Fred performed so skillfully that Mayfield would not accept Fred's word when Fred said he was not an engineer. At the end of the run the superintendent of the road had to run a special at a 60 mile an hour clip to Fort Worth and having none of his regular men available he begged Fred to make the run.

Fred had never ridden over that run before but to oblige the super he ran the train on that night run during which a terrific storm came up and arrived in Fort Worth right on time. During the trip three men came from the head car over the tender and with a view to robbing the train attacked Fred and the fireman. Fred threw two of them off the engine to their death and the fireman killed the other one with his shovel. No doubt a welcome diversion in a night of toil.

#14 FF's Twenty Rounds; or, A Fight to Save His Honor

Tom Mayfield gets two weeks off for vacation and with Fred and Terry ride their wheels to St. Louis. At the Athletic Club Fred outpoints their boxing instructor in a match and then to save the instructor his job they have a return bout and Fred permits the instructor to beat him. Later at Club they watch another boxing match. Fred passes some remarks about the winner just as that person passed by and the man slaps Fred's face.

Fred can't let that pass so he meets him in the ring and knocks him out in the 20th round. Mayfield now goes back to his job. Fred and Terry start again on their bicycle trip. Fred has a fight with a tramp and comes within a hair of getting whipped. The tramp is a wonderful boxer, a college man down on his luck. Fred takes him back to the city, trains him, matches him

against an Unknown one of the sports is backing. Fred's man wins and Fred pockets \$15,000 he won in bets. Fred and Terry go back to NY, part way by wheel and part way by train.

#15 FF's Engine Company; or, Brave Work as a Fireman

This is the first story in which Fred plays a lone hand, Terry does not appear. Judge Fearnut owns 50 acres of land in town of Eatonton and Fred goes there and tries to sell the property. He cannot get his price so cuts the tract up into building lots and by this slower method gets a fine price for the property.

Boys in the town are organizing a fire company, Fred buys an engine for them and the company is named in his honor, The Fearnut Engine Co. I tell you fire had little chance when this company got on the job.

Fred's mother came to Eatonton and paid him a visit and when the lots were all sold they both returned to New York.

#16 FF's Good Work; or, Helping A Friend In Need

Terry not in this story either. Fred in Phila on business for his father. On the street Fred meets Sam Innes who was an actor in the show Fred had been with. Fred is told Mr. Hammond is dead, Gussie Silvers in a show in Chicago and that Frank Gale and Nellie Traynor were married and barnstorming the middle west. All these people we met in #7. Phil Grimes one of that company also, is sick and destitute in a rooming house on Race St.

Fred goes there and arrives just in time to throw the landlord out of the room as he was threatening to put the sick man out in the street for non-payment of rent. Fred moves Phil to another house and then proceeds to make the harsh landlord's life miserable. Landlord berates Fred who sues him for libel and collects plenty. Fred provokes landlord into an attempted assault whereupon Fred beats him up and then has him arrested. Fred goes back to New York.

(This was the first Work and Win I ever read).

#17 FF At College; or, Work and Fun At Yale

Fred's father was a graduate of Yale and wished Fred to attend there. So Fred went to Avon Academy and tu-

tored three weeks with Prof. Lambert, then took examinations, passed and entered senior class at Yale. He meets only one person whom we ever hear of again and that was Tom Travis of Baltimore.

Fred holds his own in hazings and athletics and when the big event comes, the track meet with Harvard the entire senior class of Avon comes down as does Prof. and Mrs. Lambert and Eunice. Terry and Evelyn Olcott were there and Evelyn and Eunice meets for the first time. Each wore a sweet smile with a dagger up her sleeve but no blood was spilt. Fred comes in first in every race which is not doing badly at all.

#18 FF's Pluck; or, Fighting An Unseen Foe

The Lamberts go to New York from New Haven to visit the Fearnots as the Judge and Prof Lambert had been classmates at Yale 30 years before. Terry writes Fred that he and Evelyn are going to Poughkeepsie to visit an aunt and see the ice boat races on the Hudson. Eunice says she has relatives there also and will go and visit them and see the ice events. Fred wants to invite Tom Travis of Yale who admires Eunice to go along but Eunice can't see it. She hoped instead to get much of Fred's attentions but "no go," Evelyn took care of that angle. Fred is attacked several times during their stay by an unseen foe, once at a fire Fred is fired at, Fred fires several shots in return and wounds the man as blood spots show, but he was not captured. The attacks now ceased and Fred never knew who his assailant was or the reasons for the attacks. At end of ice boat races all return to their respective homes.

#19 FF's Defeat; or, A Fight Against Great Odds

Fred and Terry form a baseball club among members of the senior class at Avon plus a few others. They name it the Winners Baseball Club. They practise at Fredonia and have lots of parties with the young people of the town. They win all their games but one, that played against a team in Rochester which broke up in a fight both team flailing each other with bats and fists.

#20 FF's Own Show; or, On The Road With a Combination

Fred meets Sam Innes on "The Rialto" which at the time of this story

was at 14th St. Time Marches On. As a young man when I started to go to New York "The Rialto" was from 25th to 34th St. Now guess it is about 45th to 52nd. Sam tells him several of the people he was in the show with are in town, broke and out of a job. One of them Elsie Warner owned a play "The Soldier's Dream" which she had long wanted to produce. Fred decides to back a show so they go to a little town in Ohio where the scenery was and start rehearsing.

Fred had the lead opposite Elsie Warner, Fred gets several pals into the cast. Terry Olcott, Dick Duncan, Joe Jencks, Phil Grimes whom he got from Phila. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gale and he secured Gussie Silvers who had been playing in Cincinnati and when she came she brought with her a brunette singer and dancer named Flossie Graves. Show was a great success. They have some trouble with a man named Wittenmeyer who falls in love with Nellie Gale, even when he finds out she is married, he continues his attentions to Nellie till Fred brings him up to a round turn. After engagement at Kansas City Fred leaves the show which continues to run under managership of Frank Gale.

#21 FF In Chicago; or, The Abduction of Evelyn

Fred enroute to Chicago on business for his father. At a town in Ohio the theatrical company gets on and he meets all his old friends. At their urging he gets off at their stop with them and for a couple of nights plays the leads in the plays for them. They meet there a stranded actor, 23 year old Maurice Frobell. Terry has been wanting to quit the company so secretly he has Frobell understudy him. Terry is getting tired of show business also he fears he is getting too interested in Gussie Silvers. Fred goes on to Chicago and soon Terry joins him, Frobell having made good in Terry's role.

They stay at same hotel as Grace Beverly who is advance agent for the theatrical company and so are at hand to protect her from too ardent advances made by an admirer of Grace's named Falsberg. Fred told Falsberg to leave Grace alone and then made it more emphatic by knocking the man's teeth in.

Mr. Olcott comes to Chicago on

business and Evelyn comes with him and they stay at same hotel as Fred and Terry. The Theatrical Co. also comes into Chicago, there is trouble, Sam Innes has proposed marriage to Flossie Graves and she has rejected him and he is about to quit the show. Fred finally convinces Sam he should stay on.

At the hotel is a very rich woman Miss Seymour who is a double for Evelyn Olcott. One day Fred is on the street, a trolley car passes and he hears from it Evelyn's voice calling for help. Fred jumps on a horse which was hitched nearby, chases the car and rescues Evelyn from 3 men. The men had kidnapped Evelyn thinking she was Miss Seymour with a view to demanding huge ransom money. Mr. Olcott and Evelyn return East, Fred and Terry stay on in Chicago.

#22 FF's Grit; or,

Running Down A Desperate Thief

Fred still in Chicago as is the Theatrical Co. Frank Gale gets rheumatism and has to go to Hot Springs, from there he writes Fred a sharp letter, saying he has had a letter accusing Fred of being far too attentive to his wife Nellie Gale. Elsie Warner and Flossie Graves have their diamonds stolen and suspicion points to a man who had been a guest at the hotel.

Fred gets a clue which takes him to St. Paul. Finds this man and his wife living in a hotel there under name of Johnson. Fred in disguise represents himself as a wealthy sportsman. Johnson and his wife plot to entice Fred out of the city and rob him, so Mrs. Johnson starts a flirtation with Fred. Mr. Johnson says he is going to Ferris Inn a few miles out of town and asks Fred the next day to escort Mrs. Johnson there. So next day in a buggy they start to drive to the Inn. Going thru a patch of woods three men make an attack. Fred shoots one, the horses plunging knocks out another, Fred pursues the 3rd thru the woods, a swim across a river and a gun battle in woods on other side. Fred breaks the man's arm with a bullet and as he expected it was Johnson. He had on a belt containing the stolen jewels.

He gets Johnson to a hospital in St. Paul. Elsie and Flossie come up from Chicago, identify and get their jewels. Fred goes back to Chicago

with them. Fred writes Frank Gale that his jealousy is absolutely unfounded and Frank makes up with his wife. Fred's father writes him to come home.

#23 FF's Camp; or, Hunting For Big Game

Fred in Baltimore on business for his father. Stays with Tom Travis his Yale classmate and have good times with theatres and parties among Tom's friends. Fred has a letter from Terry from Cincinnati. Theatrical Co. is breaking up for the season. Terry wants Fred to get up a hunting party and go West again. Tom Travis and Dick Duncan agree to be in the party.

Reach Yellowstone Park. Secure Mr. Hardy again for a guide. They establish a camp deep in the mountains outside the Park limits and have great sport fishing and hunting big game. Another seeming hunting party comes along. They are really Government detectives looking for a gang of counterfeiters and for a time suspect Fred and his party but in end all is straightened out. After three months of sport in camp they leave. Tom Travis says he is going to write up the trip and call it Fred Fearnot's Camp.

#24 FF's Baseball Club; or,

The Nine That Never Was Beaten

(Although #16 was the first FF I ever read, this issue was the first one I ever bought, the other being given to me.)

On way back from Yellowstone, Fred, Terry, Dick and Tom Travis stop in Chicago and see a couple of ball games. This fires their interest so that when they got back to New York they hit upon the scheme of reorganizing their ball team and also the Theatrical Co. Go to a town, play the local team baseball in the afternoon and at night give their theatrical performance in a theatre. They rehearse at Asbury Park in New Jersey. Show is called Frank Gale Co. and the baseball team Fred Fearnot's Baseball Club.

Play several big cities with great success. But in Toledo the captain of the local nine falls in love with Flossie Graves and she rather encourages him in order to "Sink the needle" into Sam Innes who has treated her politely but with coolness since she refused his offer of marriage. The rest of the company feel Flossie is not doing

rightly and they boycott her, leave her out of their parties and good time. They play their last ball game in Dubuque, Iowa, team is to disband but show plans to go on as Terry and Dick Duncan are willing to stay with it tho Fred is going back to New York. However it was not to be as Sam Innes insists on leaving the show altho Flossie swallowed her pride and asked Sam to stay it did no good. Sam left and show had to close.

#25 FF in Philadelphia; or, Solving The Schuylkill Mystery

Fred was back in New York only 48 hours when he got a wire from Terry who had stayed with the Frank Gale Co. saying they could get a theatre in Phila. for 3 weeks and asking Fred to rejoin them there and bring Sam Innes. This Fred does and with Sam goes to Phila. where they continue the play "The Spy" with great success. One Sunday Fred and Terry go to Fairmount Park, hire a boat and row up the Schuylkill River. See body of a dead girl on river bank clutching in her hand photograph of a man.

Fred takes photograph and keeps it when he notifies police. With this as a clue, he runs down the murderer, causes his arrest and the man is eventually convicted. During the trial friends of the murderer have detectives shadowing Fred and Fred gets on to this fact and leads the shadowers a hard chase, making their lives just as miserable as he could.

At end of Phila. engagement which was most successful a champagne supper was given at which Sam Innes and Flossie Graves patched up their quarrel and harmony was restored to the company once more. Fred gets a letter from Eunice Lambert saying Avon Academy is to row a boat race with the Avon Boat Club and asking Fred, Terry, Dick Duncan and Joe Jencks to come up and row in the academy boat. This they decide to do and the whole Frank Gale Co. agree to go to Avon in time for the race.

#26 FF's Famous Stroke; or, The Winning Crew of Avon

Boys arrive in Avon to train for the race. Received with joy by the Lamberts and all the student body. Evelyn Olcott arrives in town and exchanges visits with Eunice Lambert. Frank Gale Co. arrives and that night

Fred and Nellie Gale do the famous "nightingale scene" from their play "The Spy" for the guests. Night before the race Fred and Terry have a fight with 3 men who are trying to put them out of the race. Race is rowed and Academy wins by half boat length due to FF's Famous Stroke.

That night a great banquet was given at the Academy to celebrate the victory. Fred made an eloquent speech and the theatrical people entertained.

END OF FIRST HALF YEAR OF WORK AND WIN

Beginning with #1 there was at end of book about a page and a half installment of a COMIC serial "P. Adolphus Sweetcake, the Dude" in the first half year there were 24 installments of this story as in two issues length of Fearnot crowded out the usual installment.

#19 contained a full page bid for Applause Letters. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF FRED?

#22 was the first issue to contain Applause Letters.

#26 all issues 1 thru 26 gave as author "By the Author of Fred Fearnot." This #26 had full page in back saying author was HAL STANDISH and that he had written much for them notably the Golden Weekly.

Reprints, #1-12-14 were never reprinted. #2 was reprinted in #733 and reprinted in sequence in ensuing issues. The pictures on the reprints were in every case different from that on the original. In the reprints several of the back pages were devoted to short stories and pages of newsy items but the Fearnot tale was given in its entirety as smaller type was used in the printing.

#26 Evelyn says to Fred toward end of Chapter 4 "It is a pity that he has no sister." Well there you have it, in #1 he has a sister, in #4 and #26 he has NO sister. Final solution wasn't to come till a year later.

AN APPEAL, to Guinon of Little Rock, Ark. For the great enjoyment of a great majority of the readers of Round-Up. Please give us a write-up on Tip Top, the first Year, or the first Half Year. You have more knowledge of Tip Top than any one else and your articles on Arlington and Billy the Kid proved most conclusively that you have the ability so what do you say Guinon? Remember to most of the

members of Round-Up the early Tip Tops are only a dim and distant memory.

NOTICE! The Saturday Evening Post out Aug. 3rd 1946 will have a fine article on Dime Novels in it.

LIBRARY RESEARCH

Avail yourselves of the extensive facilities of New York's specialized libraries by sending us your research problems! Historical facts. Accurately, comprehensively done. Books you need and cannot find located. Simple questions about New York answered one dollar each. Three for two dollars. Correspondence requires stamp.

Monica Lake

(Research)

815 East Fourteenth St.
Brooklyn 30, New York

BOOKS! ALL KINDS! Stamp brings list. W. Willner, Box 144, Midwood Station, Brooklyn 30, N. Y.

POST CARD VIEWS—Utah Views, 10 for 25c, 40 for \$1.00. Postpaid. Address, F. F. Johnson, 1485 So. 2nd East, Salt Lake City 4, Utah.

'DESERT' — 'ARIZONA HIGHWAYS'

For Sale—Back issues of Desert, Arizona Highways and National Geographic Magazines. Send in your book wants.

Jack Hellar

P. O. Box 2507, Los Angeles 53, Calif.

Have 5 or 6 various kinds of Frank Touseys Hand Book Series for sale at 10c each.

Ralph F. Cummings, Fisherville, Mass.

WANTED

AT ALL TIMES

All types of Dime Novels.

Prompt payment.

EDWARD MORRILL & SON

144 Kingston St., Boston, Mass

ORIGINAL PHOTOS

of SANDOW, old time Strongmen, old time strongwomen, oldtime wrestlers, oldtime prizefighters ALWAYS WANTED. Good prices paid. PROMPT PAYMENT.

G. NISIVOCCIA

218 Mt. Prospect Avenue (Y)
Newark 4, N. J.

WANTED

BEADLES DIME LIBRARY NOS.

7	23	30	33	34	41	44	45	50	51	59	64	68
77	84	86	93	100	107	110	111	117	120	121		
127	134	137	148	151	153	165	185	191				
195	197	201	204	217	231	244	248	250				
276	280	287	304	324	340	342	359	365				
367	374	380	394	400	409	421	423	431				
447	453	460	468	487	490	505	511	512				
513	523	559	579	592	599	603	629	664				
678	682	694	700.									

Will pay any price within reason, for any or all the above Dime Libraries, no torn or brittle copies wanted.

I am only a collector and not a dealer.

HENRY STINEMETTS

223 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles, Calif.

\$2.50 EACH FOR NOVELS

I will pay \$2.50 for each copy of the colored-cover Frank Reade Weekly Magazines and \$2 for copies of the original colored-covered Jack Wright stories that appeared between 136 and 285 Pluck and Luck.

All must be in excellent condition with clean covers and inside pulp content not badly browned or brittle. Will also buy copies not in A-1 condition but at a lesser figure.

All novels promptly paid for after I have had an opportunity to examine them.

George Flaum

1810 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston 35, Mass.